



Sarah Dusseault &lt;sarah.dusseault@lacity.org&gt;

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## RC Update/Donor Talks

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Tue, May 10, 2016 at 12:05 PM

**Anthony-Paul Diaz** <ap.diaz@lacity.org>

To: Sarah Dusseault &lt;sarah.dusseault@lacity.org&gt;

Cc: David Michaelson &lt;david.michaelson@lacity.org&gt;, Michael Shull &lt;michael.a.shull@lacity.org&gt;

Hi Sarah:

Quick update:

We met with FORC yesterday and telephone conference separately with Neima. FORC meeting productive in clarifying status of the contract and trying to obtain final costs outlayed at this point or to finish.

Neima meeting was similar to your recent talks and the received letter you forwarded to me last week which expresses his frustration and unwillingness to abandon park project. In fact, he threatened us with litigation in the conversation that should the City or RAP recommend/decide not to go through with his project he would likely seek damages that would be more "costly" than continuing and fighting a CEQA law suit. I've documented it with our City Attorney in case we need to go into closed session on June 1 our next scheduled Board Meeting. Plus the fact that we are in CEQA litigation so we most likely need to discuss that.

Obviously we believe the merits of that lawsuit would likely be frivolous as the Commission retains the ultimate authority to decide the proper management of projects and work on parkland.

Neima asked for time for us to evaluate reasons and proffer community support. We suspect he will bring many vocal supporters to the next board meeting on May 18th. We expressed our sincere belief in him and his cause as a young entrepreneur and said we are always willing to work on discussion about future park projects.

We will continue to follow our strategy of backing away from the court project for now; focus on a plan for enhanced community outreach in the future should any future projects be considered at that park and complete the wall project and determine final costs and best approach to accomplish.

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**Anthony**

Executive Officer &amp; Chief of Staff

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